

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 are pending in this application for reissue. Claims 1-14 stand allowed.

Claims 1, 4-6, 8, 9 and 14 of the original patent were previously amended. Claims 2, 3, 7 and 10-13 of the original patent remain unchanged. Claims 15, 25 and 26, all introduced with the application for reissue, are amended herein. Claims 16-24, introduced with the application for reissue, remain unchanged. Claim 27, added by amendment in the last response, is cancelled, without prejudice. No new matter is introduced.

Claims 17, 22 and 23 stand rejected, and claims 25 and 26 are objected to, under 35 USC §112, 2nd paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that Applicant regards as the invention. In response, claim 15 has been amended herein to clarify that the desk body defines an enclosed desk volume containing elements of the computer, and that a computer display is positioned for viewing at the transparent region in a writing surface defined by the desk top. Claims 25 and 26 are amended to correct “wiring” to --writing--. Applicant submits that the rejections and objections under 35 USC §112, 2nd paragraph are overcome by these amendments.

Claim 27 stands rejected under 35 USC §112, 1st paragraph. In response, claim 27 has been cancelled, without prejudice.

Claims 15-23 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Schairbaum WO 85/03626. We respectfully traverse.

In particular, independent claim 15, the sole independent claim, from which claims 16-23 depend, either directly or indirectly, is amended herein to recite that the desk body comprises a front panel, a back panel, opposite left and right side panels adjoining the front and back panels, and a bottom panel and a top (system) panel adjoining the front, back and opposite left and right side panels, the panels of the desk body in combination defining an enclosed desk volume containing elements of the computer. A desk top mounted to the desk body defines a writing surface that defines a transparent region. A computer display is positioned for viewing at the transparent region in the desk top.

Schairbaum '626 does not teach or suggest Applicant's invention of a computer in a desk module, where computer components are contained within an enclosed desk volume, e.g. to restrict unwanted user (student) access and tampering or interference (see col. 3, lines 49-50; col. 5, lines 46-47; col. 7, lines 8-11, 28-31; and esp. col. 10, lines 18-26). Rather, in the work station of Schairbaum '626, a computer CRT is movably mounted in a rack below the transparent work surface of a table. In this mounting position below the table, the computer CRT is fully exposed to tampering. Schairbaum '626 thus provides no teaching, or suggestion, for placing other elements of the computer within an enclosed desk volume, as taught and claimed by Applicant.

Claims 24-26, also dependent from claim 15 discussed above, stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious and therefore unpatentable over Schairbaum '626 in view of Lechman U.S. 5,651,594. Again, we respectfully traverse.

The Examiner proposes to combine the teaching of Schairbaum for mounting a computer CRT in a rack below a transparent table surface with the teaching of Lechman '594 for showing a display panel parallel to the desktop surface. Even if there is found proper suggestion for combining these references in the manner proposed by the Examiner (which Applicant does not concede), the resulting modification of Schairbaum '626 would either require positioning of the computer CRT directly in the user's knee space or require positioning of the display at a relatively flat angle to the user's line of sight. More to the point, however, the proposed combination of references still fails to teach or suggest Applicant's invention for a computer in a desk module where elements of the computer are disposed within an enclosed desk volume, e.g. secure from unwanted user (student) access and tampering or interference, as taught and claimed by Applicant.

On this basis we submit that independent claim 15, and claims 16-26 dependent therefrom, are all in condition for allowance over the cited prior art.

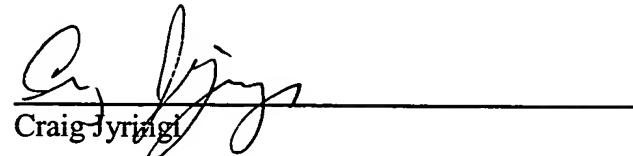
Applicant : Craig Jyringi
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Applicant submits that this application for reissue is now in condition for allowance.
Early favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Craig Jyringi

CDM Educational Corporation
5 Foster Street
P.O. Box 78
Rochdale, MA 01542
Telephone: 508-892-8387
Facsimile:

20728803.doc